

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Yoshiaki Usami, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: GROUP MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
SUPPORT METHOD FOR BUILDING,  
SUPPORT DEVICE, SUPPORT SYSTEM,  
AND COMPUTER PROGRAM  
STORAGE MEDIUM



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is:

☐ not given

☐ given for each listed item

☐ given for only non-English language listed items

☐ in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references


This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. N9450.0037/P037. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: December 6, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002.OMB 0651-0031

U. S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |                 |
|   |   |    | Application Number       | Not Yet Assigned       |                 |
|   |   |    | Filing Date              | Herewith               |                 |
|   |   |    | First Named Inventor     | Yoshiaki Usami         |                 |
|   |   |    | Group Art Unit           | N/A                    |                 |
|   |   |    | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned       |                 |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1                        | Attorney Docket Number | N9450.0037/P037 |



| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant<br>of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |                      |                                      |  |  |  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                         |                     |                                      |  |  |  |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |  |  |  |                |
|                          | A                        |                         | 5-244661            |                                      |  | 09-21-1993   |  |                |
|                          | B                        |                         | 11-110447           |                                      |  | 04-23-1999   |  |                |

| OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                |
|---|--------------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*                             | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|   |                          |  |                |

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.